Effect of Hike in Newsprint Paper Price in Production Cost of Text Books

*6168. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent hike of 80 per cent in Newsprint paper will effect the production cost of text books of schools and colleges;

(b) whether the text books will be more costly on this account;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir. Newsprint paper is usually not used for printing of textbooks of schools and colleges.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Extension of Metro from Tolly Gunge to Garia

*6169. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the Metro Railway from Tollygunge to Garia station in Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The Government of West Bengal have proposed the extension of the Metro Railway from Tollyganj to Garia. After examination, it was felt that the Feasibility Report in respect of the above project needed updating and the funding pattern of the project required to be worked out. The matter was therefore referred back to the Government of West Bengal. The Government of West Bengal have engaged M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. for updating the existing feasibility study.

Sub-Standard Drugs

*6170. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that sub-standard drugs are flooding the market due to amended drug rules of 1977; and

(b) if so, whether Union Government propose to take suitable measures to improve the quality and standard of "in house" laboratory conditions of the manufacturing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). No, Sir, Rule 71 and 76 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 were amended through a Gazette Notification in 1977 by the Central Government to make obligatory upon the licensee to provide adequate in, house quality control testing in his own premises to ensure manufacture of quality drugs.

As per the amended rules, the licensee is required to have adequate arrangements in his own premises for carrying out tests for the strength, quality and purity of the drugs manufactured.